

## **Common Myths about FOG:**

**Myth:** Storm drains and catch basins are for disposal of dirty water, debris, etc.

**Fact:** Outside drains are built to direct storm water runoff to the nearest creek or wetland. Using them for any other purpose is a violation of the federal Clean Water Act.

**Myth:** If the sewers back up, the City or Clean Water Services will fix it.

**Fact:** Owners are responsible for the sewers on their property. If they damage or back up the public sanitary sewer or drainage systems, they must pay for cleanup and repair and may be subject to fines and penalties.

**Myth:** It's OK to pour grease down the drain as long as....

*...I use the garbage disposal*

**Fact:** The garbage disposal only grinds up items before passing them into your sewer pipes.

*...I chase it down with a dose of dish soap*

**Fact:** While it's true that soap breaks up grease, but soap loses its effectiveness, and grease solidifies and congeals on pipe walls.

*...I run hot water*

**Fact:** Eventually the hot water cools and grease will solidify in your pipes.

*...The liquid is room temperature*

**Fact:** Cooking oils, such as Canola, float in wastewater and easily adhere to sewer pipes. The oily film can collect on food particles and other solids and begin to create a blockage.



### **Common sources of FOG**

- **Fried foods**
- **Cooking meats**
- **Butter, ice cream, other dairy products**
- **Gravy and sauces**
- **Mayonnaise and salad dressings**

When these types of foods are made or used to cook, collect kitchen grease in an empty tin can and use our lid to cover it. When the can is full, save the lid for your next can and throw the grease away.

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### **What Happens When We Do Not Properly Dispose Of Our FOG?**



**Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO's)**



**Costly and dangerous sewage pumping station grease build-up**



**Excessive FOG build-up and treatment capacity at the wastewater plants**



**Costly excessive pipe maintenance**



### **Make changes to our drains!**

*To help prevent this environmental and public health hazard, properly dispose of fats, oils, and grease (FOG).*

- ❖ Do not pour fats, oils, and grease (FOG) down the sink or garbage disposal. Use the trash for hardened grease. Not the drain. Recycle used cooking oil.



- ❖ Scrape and wipe pots, pans, and dishes before washing with a paper towel.



- ❖ Cool fats, oils, and grease (FOG) and place into a container such as an empty vegetable or coffee can. Place hardened grease in the trash. Recycle used cooking oil.



### **Grease is the Word**

**DON'T LET YOUR SUMMER NIGHTS BE RUINED BY A  
SEWER BACKUP IN YOUR HOME**

### **YOU'RE THE ONE THAT WE WANT!**

*To recycle*

### **TELL ME MORE. TELL ME MORE**

The recycling center in Broken Arrow is operated by the Metropolitan Environmental Trust (MET) and is located at 302 North Elm Place. The MET will accept up to 5 gallons of used cooking oil per visit. The Broken Arrow MET also accepts the following: #1 and #2 plastic bottles, plastic bottle lids, glass bottles, newspaper, office paper, magazines, aluminum cans, motor oil (5 gallon limit), batteries (household and auto), eyeglasses, phone books, plastic bags, steel cans, scrap metal, antifreeze (5 gallon limit), cardboard, and paperboard.

### **WE ARE HOPELESSLY DEVOTED TO A CLEAN BROKEN ARROW**

For more information on the **FOG** program and how you can help, please contact the City of Broken Arrow Pretreatment Department. You can reach Lauren Wilson or Savannah Stauffer by phone at 918-455-4762, Or by email at:  
[lwilson@brokenarrowok.gov](mailto:lwilson@brokenarrowok.gov)  
[sstauffer@brokenarrowok.gov](mailto:sstauffer@brokenarrowok.gov)



CITY OF  
**BROKEN ARROW**  
*Where opportunity lives*

## **Grease** Put a lid on it.



BROKEN ARROW

Fats, Oils & Grease Control Program, or **FOG**, is a problem for the drainage pipes in your home and in businesses. Most foods and many drinks contain elements of FOG. When these are put into the sewer, the FOG attaches to the sides of the sewer pipes, reducing flow. This can cause raw sewage to back up into your home or business, resulting in extensive building and property damage for you or your neighbors.

That is bad for human health, bad for your pocketbook, and bad for the environment. Causing a blockage of a public sewer system is also a violation of the Federal Clean Water Act, state and local laws. The result for you may be an expensive visit from a plumber, insurance claims, and penalties for damage to the public sewer system.